

REMARKS

Claims 1-55 are pending in the application. Claims 56-80 are cancelled.

Claims 17-48 are allowed. Claims 2-12 and 51 were also found to contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1, 13-16, 49, 50, 52-53 and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Ahmed et al. (U.S. 6,160,804). Claim 54 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Ahmed in view of Kumaki et al. (U.S. 6,473,411).

Claim 1 has been cancelled herein.

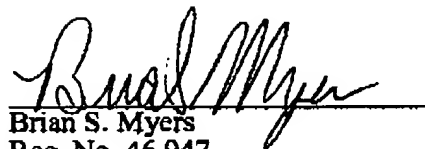
Claims 2, 5, 9 and 51 have been amended to independent form bringing them to a condition for allowance.

All dependent claims depend or have been amended to depend from an allowable independent claim and are likewise in condition for allowance.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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